<u>REMARKS</u>

Reconsideration and allowance are respectully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claims 15-56 remain in this application, claims 1-14 previously having been danceled.

The indication that all the claims remaining are allowed or otherwise allowable if amended to overcome the section 112 deficiencies is appreciately noted.

Claims 23, 31, 37 and 38, as amended herein, are now believed to be free of any section 112 defects.

Accordingly, all of claims 15-56 should now be in allowed form.

In light of the foregoing, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application with a view toward allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if a telephone call could help solve any remaining items.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 8, 2003

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